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WORLD'S STUDENT CHRISTIAN FEDERATION.

"UT OMNES UNUM SINT."

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OFFICERS OF THE FEDERATION.

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Official Organ:—"The Student World."

History and Progress.

This movement has existed in an international form since 1895. In that year the leaders of national student Christian organizations which had sprung up spontaneously in Germany, the Scandinavian countries, Great Britain, the United States and Canada, and certain non-Christian countries, met at Vadstena, in Sweden, and founded the international organisation known to-day as the World's Student Christian Federation. They appointed Mr. John R. Mott as Secretary to extend the movement to other countries. The five national or international organisations which entered the Federation, at that time had a membership of 30,000 students and professors. The statistics of the Federation, presented at the most recent conference held at Lake Mohonk, U.S.A., in June, 1913, show that the movement has been extended to about forty different countries ; that branches have been established in more than 2,300 universities and colleges, and that the membership now includes more than 155,000 students and professors, both men and women.

Aims and Characteristics.

1. THE WORLD'S STUDENT CHRISTIAN FEDERATION IS A DISTINCTLY CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT.

IT DEFINES ITS AIMS AS FOLLOWS:

(1). To unite Student Christian Movements or organisations throughout the world and promote mutual relations among them.

(2). To collect information regarding the religious condition of the students of all lands.

(3). To promote the following lines of activity:

(*a*) To lead students to accept the Christian Faith in God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—according to the Scriptures, and to live as true disciples of Jesus Christ.

(*b*) To deepen the spiritual life of students, and to promote earnest study of the Scriptures amongst them.

(*c*) To enlist students in the work of extending the Kingdom of Christ throughout the whole world.

2. THE WORLD'S STUDENT CHRISTIAN FEDERATION IS AN INTER-DENOMINATIONAL AND INTER-ECCLESIASTICAL MOVEMENT.

The Federation is identified with no one communion or denomination. Amongst its members are to be found loyal members of different branches of the Christian Church, Protestant, Roman Catholic, Orthodox and Oriental. Voting or controlling membership is confined to those who take a distinctly Christian attitude, but the Federation welcomes to its associate membership and to participation in all its activities, students who belong to non-Christian religions, and students who profess no religious faith whatever, but who are in sympathy with its objects The statistics show that a large number of such students join the Federation.

3. IT IS NOT A POLITICAL ORGANIZATION.

In no country is the Federation attached to any political party, or to any secret organisation. It conducts no political propaganda. Amongst its members are found men and women whose political convictions are poles apart.

4. IT IS A THOROUGHLY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION.

As may be seen from looking at the second page, the president is a Swede, the vice-president is Chinese (until recently a member of the Senate of the Chinese Republic), the secretary is American, the woman secretary is English, and the committee is made up of representatives of all the different national movements.

Conferences of the Federation are held every two years, in different parts of the world : in 1913 at Lake Mohonk, U.S.A., in 1911 at Constantinople, in 1909 at Oxford, in 1907 at Tokyo, in 1905 at Zeist, in Holland, etc.

No one country exercises a dominant influence on the development and policy of the work. The sole condition of admission to the Federation is that the basis and aims of the movement admitted shall be in harmony with the aims of the Federation. Each national organisation is free to use plans and methods which are in accordance with its national genius and temperament, appoints its own officers, and is controlled only by its own national committee.

Methods and Results.

1. THE FEDERATION IS A STRONG UNITING FORCE.

It reveals the solidarity of the human race to the students in the most forceful way possible. Each college Christian Association brings together in its membership the students of different faculties, of different sets, of different schools of thought. It is a foe to unhealthy isolation whether of the individual or of the group.

Each national organisation through its secretaries and its annual national conferences brings together the students of different universities and of different races in the same country. In Austria, for example, the Czech and Polish and German students have actually been brought together in the same Conference, which Hungarian students have also attended. In South Africa the Dutch and British students, in Switzerland the German-speaking and the French-speaking students, as well as those of many other nationalities, work side by side for the Kingdom of God. These are results by no means easy to obtain.

Again, the international conferences facilitate understanding and friendship between the students of different nations. It is not without significance for the future peace of the world (as more than one ambassador has remarked), that the future statesmen, writers, teachers and lawyers of different countries should learn to understand each other and appreciate each other's good points.

2. THE FEDERATION DOES MUCH TO IMPROVE THE SOCIAL AND MORAL CONDITIONS OF STUDENT LIFE.

By means of social and other gatherings it helps lonely students to find friends: through its international organisation it does much to ensure a welcome for students outside their own country. In not a few countries it meets practical social needs of students by means of hostels, restaurants, reading rooms, employment bureaux, lists of boarding houses and lodgings, and so on.

The high moral ideals of the Federation and the attention given in its meetings to the moral questions vital in the lives

of students, have made it such a recognised force for righteousness that it has been welcomed and supported by the authorities of many universities, and by those who are earnestly concerned for the deepest welfare of their nation. This is the case even in non-Christian countries like Japan, where remarkable testimonies to the uplifting influence of the Federation have been given by statesmen like Prince Ito and Count Okuma.

3. THE FEDERATION BRINGS STUDENTS TO A LIVING FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST.

In spite of a general opinion to the contrary, a careful study of the student field to-day reveals a rising tide of faith in Jesus Christ; this unquestionable fact is due, partly at least to the Federation. In both Christian and non-Christian countries students listen eagerly to the presentation of the claims of Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour; and in more than one country the general agnostic attitude of thought amongst university men and women is being changed to a general attitude of belief.

This is largely the result of the activity of the Christian Associations, especially of circles which have been formed almost everywhere for the study of the Bible. These circles are by no means confined only to students who are convinced of the truth of Christianity; many non-Christian or agnostic students also join them in order to seek the truth along with their Christian fellow-students.

4. THE FEDERATION IS PLEDGED TO THE SERVICE OF GOD AND OF MANKIND.

No Christian Association affiliated to the Federation aims only to meet the spiritual and moral needs of individual students; it is a union of those pledged to service, and seeks to stimulate and prepare every student to take his part in hastening the coming of the Kingdom of God upon earth. Circles are organised for the study of social problems and of the work of missions both at home and abroad. Practice goes hand in hand with theory, and in many countries members take an active part in such work as social settlements, clubs for factory girls or

street boys. Such social work and study prepare the students for the service of their city and their nation.

The service rendered to the foreign missionary work of the Churches will be easily realised by a glance at the statistics of the missionary wing of the Federation, known as the Student Volunteer Movement. Since the foundation of the Federation over 7,000 University and College graduates have gone out to the foreign mission field under the various missionary societies.

The Federation is a training school for service: it is for this reason that it has won the confidence of the leaders of the Churches and of the various missionary and social organisations. They are looking to the Federation to enlist and train new workers for them, who they hope will later on become leaders and bring into the work of the Church fresh currents of inspiration and life.

MOVEMENTS

AFFILIATED TO THE FEDERATION.

American and Canadian Student Christian Movements.

Australasian Student Christian Union.

Student Christian Movements of Belgium, the Netherlands, and Switzerland.

Student Christian Movement of Great Britain and Ireland.

Student Young Men's Christian Association of China and Korea.

Student Christian Movements of France and Italy.

German Christian Students' Alliance.

Student Christian Movements of India and Ceylon.

Student Young Men's Christian Association of Japan.

Russian Student Christian Union.

Scandinavian University Christian Movement.

Students' Christian Association of South Africa.

Student Christian Movement in Lands without National Organisations.

NOTE.

This pamphlet can be obtained, price 1d.
In quantities of 50 for 2s. 6d.
" " 100 for 4s. 6d.